Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 A-01 M-03 OC-06 CCO-00 OPR-02 RSR-01 SY-07

USSS-00 INRE-00 /124 W

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P R 091115 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7201
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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SUBJECT: CYPRUS: MAKARIOS CONDEMNS PRO- GOVT ARMED BANDS AS 33 MORE EXPLOSIONS ROCK ISLAND; FIRST GRIVASITE KILLED IN

POLICE STATION RAID

BEGIN SUMMARY: TEMPO OK INTRA- GREEK CYPRIOT VIOLENCE
CONTINUED INCREASE OVER WEEKEND AS 33 BOMBS EXPLODED IN
THREE CITIES, MOST OF THEM APPARENTLY WORK OF PRO- MAKARIOS
ARMED GROUPS. DEPLORING TERROSIT ACTS OF GOVT
SUPPORTERS, ARCHBISHOP SAID ISLAND WAS RIPE FOR CIVIL STRIFE.
GRIVASITES ATTACKED THREE POLICE STATIONS, LOSING ONE MAN,
THEIR FIRST CASUALTY. PRO- GOVT PAPER CRITICIZES GREEK
ACTING FON MIN CAVALIERATOS' ATTACK ON GREEK CYPRIOT
LEFT AS PROVIDING GRIVASITES WITH PRETEXT FOR FURTHER
VIOLENCE. IN INTERVIEWS WITH BRITISH AND ITALIAN PAPERS,
MAKARIOS DOWNPLAYS GREEK GOVT ROLE IN GRIVAS
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ACTIVITIES END SUMMARY

- 1. EARLY MORNING APRIL 8, 33 EXPLOSIONS ROCKED PAPHOS, LIMASSOL AND LARNACA. SHOPS, OFFICES AND HOMES WERE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED AND TEN CARS DEMOLISHED. IN PAPHOS ALONE, 26 EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED -- SO FAR AS WE CAN ASCERTAIN ALL AGAINST GRIVAS SUPPORTERS. (ONE TARGET WAS PROPERTY OF PRO- ENOSIS POLICEMAN, ANOTHER THAT OF PRIEST WHO CONTINUED USE BISHOP OF PAPHOS' NAME DURING CHURCH SERVICES RATHER THAN ARCHBISHOP'.) LARNACA EXPLOSIONS ALSO APPARENTLY SET OFF BY MAKARIOS SUPPORTERS. WHILE IN LIMASSOL BOTH PARTIES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE. NO ONE WAS INJURED
- 2. EVENING FOLLOWING EXPLOSIONS, ARCHBISHOP PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MOST BOMB ATTACKS WERE CAUSED BY GOVT SUPPORTERS, NOT GRIVASITES. HE CONDEMNED VIOLENCE FROM ANY SOURCE, AND SAID NO MOTIVE COULD JUSTIFY ACTS OF TERRORISM. MAKARIOS ADDED THAT FORMATION OF ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS BY GRIVAS HAD LED TO FORMATION OF OTHER ILLEGAL GROUPS BY PEOPLE SUPPORTING GOVT. RESULT WAS THAT ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND COUNTER- VIOLENCE OCCURRED DAILY, AND "CONDITIONS FOR CIVIL STRIFE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED." AS FOR GRIVAS, MAKARIOS CONCLUDED, HIS TERROSIT ACTIVITIES HAD CHANGED HIM FROM "THE HERO OF EOKA TO THE EVIL SPRIT OF CYPRUS."

COMMENT: MAKARIOS STATEMENT IS MOST EXPLICIT DISAVOWAL TO DATE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM BY ARMED BANDS OF LYSSARIDES AND OTHER GOVT SUPPORTERS. AT SAME TIME IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT PRO-MAKARIOS BANDS WILL CEASE THEIR ACTIVITIES UNTIL GOVT ITSELF TAKES DETERMINED ACTION TO ENSURE SECURITY OF STATE.

3. TWO POLICE STATIONS WERE DESTROYED EARLY MORNING APRIL 8 (XYLOPHAGOU AND AKHNA) AND FOLLOWING NIGHT RAIDERS WERE DRIVEN OFF FROM ATTACK ON KOUTRAFAS STATION AFTER SUFFERING ONE CASUALTY. LATTER INCIDENT SAW MOST DETERMINED RESISTANCE SO FAR TO GRIVAS ATTACK. POLICE RETURNED FIRE AND CALLED FOR ASSISTANCE. LENGTHY FIREFIGHT DEVELOPED, RESULTING IN DEATH OF ONE ATTACKER, WOUNDING OF ANOTHER, AND INJURIES TO THREE POLICEMEN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEAD MAN HAS NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED, BUT WAS DESCRIBED

AS ABOUT 25 YEARS OLD, WEARING MILITARY UNIFORM.

- 4. PRO- GOVT KYPROS APRIL 9 SHARPLY CRITICIZED GOG
 ALTERNATE FON MIN CAVALIERATOS FOR HIS PREVIOUS DAY'S
 STATEMENT SUGGESTING THAT CYPRUS GOVT AUTHORITIES TAKE
 ACTION AGAINST LEFTISTS. (CAVALIERATOS' WORDS, INTERPRETED
 HERE BY BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT AS DIRECTED AT LEFTIST MP
 LYSSARIDES, WERE THAT GOC SHOULD "CUT OFF DEFINITELY...
 ALL ELEMENTS WORKING FOR DE- HELLENIZATION OF THE ISLAND.")
 KYPROS CLAIMS CAVALIERATOS STATEMENT HAS WORRIED GOVT
 SINCE IT COULD ENCOURAGE RIGHT- WING FANATICS TO TAKE
 VIOLENT ACTION AGAINST LYSSARIDES AND HIS PARTY.
- 5. TWO RECENT INTERVIEWS WITH ARCHBISHOP WERE PUBLISHED OVER WEEKEND, ONE WITH ITALINA CORRIERE DELLA SERA, OTHER WITH LONDON DAILY EXPRESS. IN FORMER MAKARIOS SAID HE DID NOT THINK GRIVAS HAD RETURNED TO ISLAND WITH CONSENT OF GREEK MILITARY AULHORITIES. "HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ASSISTED BY CERTAIN PERSONS IN ATHENS, BUT NOT BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT." ALONG SAME LINE, IN SECOND INTERVIEW HE SIAD HE BELIEVED GRIVAS WAS IN DIRECT CONTROL OF ENOSIS CAMPAIGN. POPPER

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